

STATINTL

STATINTL

U.S. Issuing Licenses for Haiti Arms

By Terri Shaw
and Irwin Goodwin

Washington Post Staff Writers

The United States has quietly resumed issuing licenses for the sale of arms to Haiti through a Miami-based concern with close ties to the regime of President-for-Life Jean Claude Duvalier.

There have also been reports that the same company, Aerotrade, has supplied several U.S. veterans to train Haiti's new counterinsurgency force, called the Leopards, and Haiti's small coast guard.

Haitian exiles say they fear the developments may foreshadow a resumption of official U.S. military aid to Haiti.

Military and economic aid to the Caribbean nation was cut off in the early 1960s, officially because it was felt in Washington that the assistance was being misused by the dictatorial regime of President Francois Duvalier.

Duvalier died last April and was succeeded by his son. Most of the thousands of Haitians who fled during the elder Duvalier's government have ignored the younger Duvalier's invitation to return, apparently because they fear that the character of the island's government has not changed.

State Department sources confirmed reports from exiles and others that Aerotrade is registered as Haiti's arms-purchasing agent in the United States. It shares an office in Miami with Air Haiti, a two-plane cargo line most of which is owned by Luckner Cambronne, Haiti's minister of the interior and defense. Aerotrade owns 30 per cent of Air Haiti, which makes nonscheduled flights between Port au Prince, Miami and Puerto Rico.

A State Department official who asked that his name not be used said Aerotrade was issued licenses during the past two years to export hand guns, semi-automatic rifles, ammunition, and "a couple of armored personnel carriers."

Aerotrade Queried

The official said he has queried Aerotrade about reports that the company is also training the Haitian armed force.

"If they have entered into any agreement to give technical assistance they have to come to us for permission to do so," the official said.

The official said he could not "recall" that there was ever a "formal embargo" on the sale of arms to Haiti by private individuals or companies. However, he admitted that few export licenses were issued after U.S. aid to the regime of Francois Duvalier was suspended.

A source close to the Haitian government said the Caribbean nation had been buying machinery, airplanes, jeeps, half-tracks, guns and spare parts from Aerotrade for about three years.

He said Air Haiti flew the arms from Miami to Haiti along with unfinished textiles, electrical appliances and mechanical parts. The line's two planes are a DC-6 and a lumbering World War II vintage C-46 cargo plane, capable of carrying packaged planes and half-tracks.

Aerotrade's activities in Haiti first came to the notice of the foreign press when the 560-man force of Leopards marched in the Nov. 18 Army Day parade. According to some reports, U.S. "advisers" marched with the antiguerrilla units, and an officer of Aerotrade, James O. Byers, stood on the reviewing stand with young President Duvalier and U.S. Ambassador Clinton H. Knox.

A Haitian who was in Port au Prince at the time said news of the U.S. veterans training the Leopards was the talk of Port au Prince, and "everyone thinks the U.S. government has resumed aid."

Attempts to interview Aerotrade officials were frustrating.

Both the State Department and the source close to the

Haitian government said the president of Aerotrade was Samuel Urrutia and Byers was the vice president.

However, a man who answered Aerotrade's telephone in Miami and identified himself as Urrutia said he was the managing director of Air Haiti, and Byers was president of Aerotrade.

'Business Firm'

Byers refused to answer any questions about the company, saying: "We're nothing but a business firm doing legal business in this country... and have for several years."

News of Aerotrade's activities in Haiti has led to speculation that it might be a covert way for the U.S. government to discreetly rearm the Duvalier regime which is still unpopular in Latin America and among North American liberals.

The well-connected Haitian source said Aerotrade has worked for Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Colombia, Nicaragua and the Dominican Republic—the type of Caribbean "hot spots" where the CIA has been known to operate.

State Department

State Department sources denied any U.S. government involvement with Aerotrade or with the supplying of arms to Haiti, other than the issuance of export licenses.

The sources said U.S. aid to Haiti had been restricted to about \$3 million a year in humanitarian programs like malaria control since 1963.

State Department sources said that the Haitian government requested "a limited supply of arms, military equipment and credits" from the U.S. government last summer. He said the request was under consideration.

The item on Haiti's shopping list considered most likely to be approved is a request for patrol boats. The Haitian coast guard now consists of three patrol boats, which, a source said, are in-

capable "of the most elementary air-sea rescue."

If the United States did approve the request for boats, it was understood, it would be justified on the basis that the boats might be needed to rescue American pilots or sailors in trouble off the coast of Haiti.

Haitian exiles of various political orientations said they feared weapons sold to the Duvalier regime would be used to put down opposition, and maintain the dictatorship.

Leo Joseph, editor of Haiti Observateur, an independent exile newspaper published in New York, said the establishment of the Leopards was merely an attempt to improve the image of the Ton-Ton Macoutes, an irregular private "army" which became well known for its brutal methods.

Joseph and other exiles, who asked that their names not be published, said many of the Leopards are former "macoutes."

16 JUN 1971

Our readers say--

HAITIANS ORGANIZING

Last Sunday, June 6th, I attended a meeting of Haitians in Jamaica, Queens, which adopted a constitution for their newly-formed organization the "Union Patriotique Haitienne."

The draft constitution presented and read by Colonel Pierre Armand, the initiator of the movement, was unanimously adopted with minor modifications following a long discussion in which a majority of the attendants participated.

Colonel Armand then proposed, and it was accepted, that the next meeting be a joint one with all other Haitian groups in New York State for the purpose of organizing a mass protest against the presence of U.S. warships in Haitian waters. He said the protest would also be against the shady maneuvers of the State Department aimed at a defacto annexation of Haiti through the medium of the C.I.A. and Ambassador Clinton E. Knox. ✓

The meeting ended in a very high spirit of determination to carry on until Haiti is free again.

S. JUSTE ZAMOR, New York

NEW YORK, N.Y.
TIMES APR 24 1971

M - 899,231
S - 1,443,738

Haitians Here Urge U.S. Not to Back New Regime

By DEIRDRE CARMODY

Members of the Haitian Resistance, a coalition of about a dozen organizations that represent most of the Haitians here, called on the United States yesterday to withdraw its support of the new regime of Jean-Claude Duvalier and to cease all interference in Haitian affairs.

At a news conference at the Overseas Press Club, members of the Resistance, which is committed to the overthrow of the Haitian dictatorship, de-

mandated that the Duvalier Government give complete amnesty to all political exiles, free all political prisoners, disarm the terrorist Tontons Macoutes—Haitian Creole for "bogeyman"—and return all properties taken from landowners.

Many of the Resistance leaders are former officers in the Haitian Army who escaped during the frequent purges of officers by President François Duvalier, who died Wednesday night at the age of 64.

For about a year the leaders have been trying to organize all the Haitian revolutionary groups here. They said that a myriad organizations exemplified how Duvalier had divided the country to safeguard himself.

The terrorist tactics he used have not been limited to Haiti, according to Resistance members. They say that members of the Tontons Macoutes, the security force, have appeared at rallies here waving pistols

in the faces of frightened exiles, and the exiles often have worn masks at rallies for fear of reprisals to themselves or their families if their identities became known.

One of the Tontons Macoutes was beaten up on Franklin Street in Brooklyn on Thursday by some of the exiles when he appeared at an informal street gathering celebrating Duvalier's death, according to François Benoit, spokesman for the Resistance. Mr. Benoit said there were 70,000 Haitians in this city.

"All Haitians know each other," said Mr. Benoit, who had been a lieutenant in the Haitian Army. "We know who are the Macoutes and who are not."

Relations Are Strained

He said that Duvalier had sent one representative to spy on exiles here, with orders to kill if necessary. The traditional method of killing according to Resistance members, is through a poison in the form of powder crushed from leaves. The almost-invisible powder, they say, is placed on the seat of a chair or on a doorknob and is absorbed through a person's clothes and skin into his bloodstream.

The Resistance leaders strongly protested United States support of the Duvalier Government. Actually, although the United States recognizes the Government, relations between the two countries have been severely strained since 1963, when American aid was sharply reduced.

The Resistance contends that the Central Intelligence Agency has trained Haitians in guerrilla warfare. Thirteen of these men, the Resistance said, landed in Haiti and attempted, unsuccessfully, to overthrow the Government in November, 1964. They were reportedly caught after three months, and two of them were shot in the presence of children.

At the time it was reported in the press here that Duvalier announced that these men had "received intensive training in a military camp in an unspecified foreign country and that arms had been placed at their disposal," Duvalier had implied clearly that the foreign country was the United States.

The Resistance does not consider Haiti's 5,000-man army a serious deterrent to its plans. The organization said that Duvalier had purged the army of most of its best men—many of whom had been trained in the United States—so that it would be no threat to him. Those who were not shot escaped, and there is now a better military force of Haitians in exile than in Haiti, Resistance members say.

Approved

S 3728

DP80-016

SENATE

March 24, 1971

STATINTL

Florida, Inc., and a February 18 column by Jack E. Anderson, of the Miami Herald, be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the items were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Harpers Ferry, W. Va., February 25, 1971.

Mr. CRAIG FISHER,
NBC News,
New York, N.Y.

DEAR CRAIG: Congratulations on the Everglades show. It was easily the best that has been done on the subject. I am glad we were able to help in some small way and only wish we could have been more helpful.

I am certain we will be petitioning to purchase prints for Park Service use.

Once again, thank you for saying so well those things we have been trying to preach for so long.

Sincerely yours,

CARL G. DEGEN, JR.,
Chief, Division of Audiovisual Arts.

CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN FLORIDA
FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT,
WEST PALM BEACH, FLA.
February 18, 1971.

Mr. CRAIG FISHER,
National Broadcasting Co.,
Burbank, Calif.

DEAR Mr. FISHER: Please let me compliment you on your Everglades film. It was one of the finest films I have ever had the pleasure to see on television.

For many years I have spent a considerable amount of time in Everglades National Park and the great wilderness areas to the north that are controlled by the Central and Southern Florida Flood Control District. But in spite of this, at the film's conclusion I was anxious to return again to the Park.

As each portion of the film passed before my eyes, I caught myself agreeing with every comment. Let me assure you, this is something I haven't been able to say about previous documentaries concerning the Park's problems.

We in the Flood Control District have spent years attempting to find the answers to the problems of the Glades, and we will continue to do so in years to come. But a documentary such as this one reassures us that some people can still recognize the problems and encourage us, rather than arousing an uninformed public to blame all nature's woes on us.

I also appreciated the fact that credit was given to the FCD for their film footage used in the picture. Let me assure you that if you ever want to return to the Everglades, our District will be more than happy to cooperate with you on any project on which you may be working.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN G. DUPUIS, JR.,
Vice Chairman.

THE GREATER MIAMI
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Miami, Fla., February 17, 1971.

Mr. CRAIG FISHER,
Executive Producer, NBC News,
New York, N.Y.

DEAR Mr. FISHER: Your Everglades documentary deserves many compliments. It was a "first" to point out how the quality and quantity of water affects our valuable ecosystem.

We were very proud of the observation you made about community attitudes, and we couldn't agree more that our directors and efforts have been channelled toward serious environmental goals.

If it is possible, I would like to obtain a copy of the script, or at least the last fifteen

minute summary so we can use it as an objective viewpoint of our community activities.

Sincerely,

FRANK J. CALLAHAN.

WATER USERS ASSOCIATION
OF FLORIDA, INC.,
Kissimmee, Fla., February 25, 1971.

Mr. CRAIG FISHER,
National Broadcasting Co.,
New York, N.Y.

DEAR Mr. FISHER: Please accept my sincere congratulations for your excellent production "The Everglades". The photography must be regarded as some of the most beautiful and interesting ever made. Your logical portrayal of the life food chain and the importance of wet and dry cycles was so clearly and logically portrayed that viewers could easily grasp this important biological process.

Mr. Downs' narration was excellent. The spacing of the narrative with the periods of fine background music was very effective and added much to the enjoyment of the program.

The overland flow of water to Everglades National Park has been a very controversial subject as you well know. In this connection it is seldom understood or pointed out that the sole source of supply for the water north of the park is also rainfall on the area. When the park is short on rain so is this supply. Another item that may be of interest is that the quality of the water from the conservation areas to Everglades National Park ranks with the purest of any aquatic preserve in the United States. This is probably due to the absorption of nutrients by the dense vegetation in the 1,345 square miles of the conservation areas.

Thank you for this outstanding program. I hope that it will be shown again soon.

Sincerely,

RILEY S. MILES,
Executive Director and General Manager.

REASSURING DOCUMENTARY FOCUSES ON THE
EVERGLADES
(By Jack E. Anderson)

It was a relief Tuesday night to learn via an NBC special that our Everglades is in relatively fair shape, ecologically speaking.

In a 60-minute report with surpassingly beautiful photography, Hugh Downs, serving as host and narrator, told us that thus far the vast, watery park is in good natural balance.

There are threats to it—drought, encroachment of home development and jet ports and the wrong use of insecticides. But to Florida's credit the park is still an unsullied wonder of plant and wildlife.

Producer Craig Fisher and his cameraman in a succession of film shots gave TV viewers breath-taking vistas of the 9,000 square miles of grass, forests, mangroves and water.

And in candid close-ups it took the cameraman months to capture the eternal cycling of the bird and animal life of the Glades.

Viewing an alligator making a meal on a raccoon or a cottonmouth moccasin striking at a squirrel isn't particularly pleasant but as Downs pointed out, it is an important ecological process of "death without destruction."

Former Secretary of the Interior Walter Hickel was on hand, strolling with Downs along one of the park's elevated walkways and reflecting on the value to Americans of a natural treasure such as the Glades.

Americans, he said, "are trying to meet priorities that in the past were basically economic. Now they are making decisions that are greater than economic reasons."

It was reassuring documentary and totally fascinating to watch.

YOU SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH: A
REPLY TO CRITICISM OF THE
NETWORKS

Mr. McGOVERN, Mr. President, we have heard again in recent days serious attacks on the objectivity of the press made by the Vice President of the United States and by a Member of the U.S. Senate who serves as chairman of the Republican Party. Because of the source of these charges, I feel that we cannot allow them to go unanswered.

In our Nation, a free press has always been one of the underpinnings of an independent public opinion. It has enabled citizens to form an opinion about Government policies based on sources of information other than those in the Government itself.

Any government may find itself uncomfortable under such an arrangement, but that, I expect, is the very reason for its existence. We want our Government to be a model of probity; we know that a government is certain to reflect human shortcomings and fall somewhat short of our desires. It has been an article of our democratic philosophy that the free press should act to spur the men in our Government to the greatest honesty in their statements to the American people.

The media themselves are, of course, no less fallible than government. They will inevitably make mistakes. But their failures should no more discredit all of their work than the mistakes of our Government should be allowed to destroy our faith in the institutions of government.

For the second time, we have seen the administration launch a major attack on the media which is nothing less than an assault on the institution of a free press. Our history has shown that those in power are almost certain to dislike what they read about themselves. What is most disturbing now is that the administration, because it read and seen reports it does not like, is attempting to undermine the confidence of the American public in the media.

We are told that this attack does not mean that more stringent regulation of the media is sought. But the apparent objective of these attacks is not simply to restrain the media but to make them the object of public scorn.

I ask that the administration reflect on the course that it is taking. Its present course presents a clear and present danger to one of the vital ingredients of our democratic system.

In the light of these recent statements, I hope that the media resist all attempts at intimidation. Any newsman who alters his report because of criticism by the administration deserves equal condemnation with those who have sought to hinder his freedom.

I believe the media should always be on trial. It should be judged on its accuracy, its objectivity and its completeness. The jury should be the public; the media themselves should be their own most severe judge. When the political leaders of our Nation set themselves up as judge and jury, freedom of the press is in danger.

CHICAGO, ILL.
SUN-TIMES

M - 541,086
S - 697,966

AUG 10 1970

Ambassador ponders position of U.S. in Haiti

By John Adam Moreau
Sun-Times Correspondent

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti—A Negro, Clinton Knox, is the U.S. ambassador to this overwhelmingly black nation.

"But," Knox said in an interview at the U.S. Embassy here, "if relations between the United States and Haiti improve it wouldn't be, it couldn't be, because I'm a Negro."

Knox, 63, a PhD in history from Harvard University, came here in 1969 after five years as ambassador to Dahomey. Before that, he was deputy chief of mission in Honduras.

"You ask," he said, "whether I'm constantly on the defense because of race relations in the United States. . . . No, the Haitians are not so apt to tell us about race strife. They have their own divisions and antagonisms between blacks and mulattos."

Loan considered

Elsewhere in Port-au-Prince as Knox spoke, representatives of the Inter-American Development Bank continued discussions with the Haitian government concerning a \$5.5 million loan to expand the capital's water supply.

That prosaic subject is linked to the woeful state of U.S.-Haitian relations. New York's Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller recommended last year after his Latin-American tour that U.S. economic aid to Haiti be resumed. But although Knox said he expects the easing soon of a virtual economic blockade of Haiti, such action hasn't been taken yet. And the \$5.5-million loan has been held up.

"Now, however," said Knox, "the National Bank of Haiti has renegotiated the payment of a \$1.5 million debt to the U.S. Export-Import Bank. It's an agreement in principle and I think it will lead to the renewal of aid."

Diplomatic attitudes

These economic doings are related to the diplomatic attitudes both nations have assumed.

The president of this impoverished, ruined land of 4 million people, Francois Duvalier, has been in office for 13 years. Today he has no significant opposition.

Rivals have been jailed or murdered, have gone into exile or have shut up or joined up.

During the years Duvalier was wiping out the opposition and putting down a series of pathetic incompetent invasions or insurrections, the United States withdrew its military training mission.

Virtually all U.S. economic aid stopped, and since 1963, when President John F. Kennedy gave Central Intelligence Agency help to an abortive coup d'etat, the countries have barely spoken diplomatically.

"What has happened now," said a diplomat here who cannot be identified, "is that Duvalier has obtained such strong control that Washington has come around to thinking that since political opposition is futile, one had better go ahead and try to help the impoverished people."

What U.S. should do

Asked his opinion of his colleague's assessment and whether democracy is relevant to Haiti, Knox said with mild annoyance

"That answer seems obvious, doesn't it? This country has a literacy rate of 10 per cent. The poverty is unmeasurable."

Asked what the United States should now do, Knox said, "We should show Haiti we're not hostile to its welfare, and what I or any other ambassador must do is convey our sympathy for and belief in improving the economic conditions to the tolerable level."

Most Haitians live off fishing, the land and forestry. Knox believes an agricultural credit program should be funded by the United States and he has recommended such a program, but no action has been taken.

PHOENIX ARIZONA GAZETTE

4 May 1970

The Bonannos helped Papa Doc battle CIA for control of Haiti

By BOB THOMAS
Southern Arizona Bureau

TUCSON—In the Haitian capital of Port au Prince in 1963, a plush gambling casino catering to the international jet set was being operated by the Bonanno family of Tucson.

It was all legal, thanks to an exclusive license given to the Bonannos by black dictator Francois "Papa Doc" Duvalier.

Then, according to the April issue of True magazine, President John F. Kennedy decided that Duvalier's repressive regime must be toppled. The late President entrusted the job of deposing Papa Doc to the Central Intelligence Agency, despite the CIA's very recent failure to overthrow Castro in the Bay of Pigs fiasco.

The Arizona Republic has learned that the Bonanno family played a major role in keeping Duvalier in power and that this assistance has earned them the enmity of the CIA.

The struggle between the CIA and the Mafia for Haiti, as detailed in True magazine, is mainly factual, sources close to the affair have told The Republic.

Not true, these sources said, is the magazine's claim that Duvalier allowed Joseph "Joe Bananas" Bonanno, the elderly and ailing reputed Mafia chief, to hide out in his Port au Prince palace while he was mysteriously missing.

Shortly after the casino began operations, Bonanno was reported to have been kidnaped on the streets of New York City just before he was to testify before a federal grand jury investigating an organized crime conspiracy.

For a full year he dropped from sight, leading many law enforcement officials to speculate he had been murdered and his body hidden in a secret Mafia graveyard. There also was speculation the "kidnaping" had been staged and that Bonanno was voluntarily hiding out, a theory which gained much support when he suddenly reappeared.

During this time, various criminal elements were battling for control of rackets in New York which allegedly had belonged to Bonanno. The gang fight, known as the Banana War, after Bonanno's alias, erupted in 1964.

Bonanno's son, Salvatore "Bill" Bonanno, told The Republic it was he, and not his father, who set up the gambling arrangement with Duvalier and who spent considerable time in the dictator's palace.

"Yes, it's true, I was there in 1963 and afterwards," said Bill Bonanno. "That's no secret. Anyone who really wanted to find out would only have to check my passport or the visa forms."

"I've nothing to hide. I've been there at least a half-dozen times, sometimes with my wife, flying over on Pan American Airlines, \$165 a round trip."

Bonanno, a University of Arizona graduate who now lives in San Jose, Calif., said his family had gambling concessions in Cuba before Castro took over and more recently in the Dominican Republic, which shares the same island with Haiti.

Bonanno said that on the occasions he was in Haiti his father was not there.

"I don't know where he was during this time. When he finally showed up I told him, 'Look, you and I both know about federal grand juries. So I don't want to know where you've been. Don't tell me. Maybe when we're both much older you can tell me. But if I don't know I can't be accused of perjury before a grand jury', the younger Bonanno said.

After Bill returned to this country, the Haiti gambling casino was managed in behalf of the Bonanno family by a friend, Vito de Filippo, under the casino permit granted by Duvalier.

During the following years the U.S. government put increasing pressure on Haiti, including clandestine attacks by CIA agents, the True magazine article stated.

In 1968 the CIA-sponsored a bombing attack on the national palace using an American-piloted bomber. Haitian militia frustrated several ground attacks, exterminating one CIA-trained force to the last man, according to the magazine.

Duvalier found he was unable to obtain, while every other Latin American country, Cuba excepted, could get Amer-

ican weapons almost for the asking.

So, True magazine reports, Duvalier turned to the Mafia for guns.

Other sources told The Republic that Duvalier issued a legal contract, in French, for arms procurement from the Mafia agents.

It was in the delivery operation that the Mafia clashed with the CIA. Despite intensive surveillance and rigid inspection of all Caribbean shipments, a large quantity of surplus GI weapons found its way to the French-speaking black nation, according to the magazine.

True said the mob went to Italy and managed to secure a number of surplus U.S. submarine chasers and PT boats from friendly Rome contacts. These boats were routed through a number of phony consignees in various countries before winding up in Haiti as part of Duvalier's defense force.

Ironically, some of these very same boats were involved in the abortive revolt against Duvalier April 24 in which his palace was shelled. The ships and crews later were given U.S. asylum.

Meyer Lansky, the article said, now controls gambling in Port au Prince. Lansky, who was active in gambling throughout the Caribbean, especially in the Bahamas, is attempting to establish hotel-casino-real estate combines in Haiti.

STATINTL

MIAMI, FLA.
HERALD

M - 375,469
S - 468,167

APR 23 1970

Hijacked Pilot Once a Smuggler?

By BOB BURDICK
Herald Staff Writer

WEST PALM BEACH — The West Palm Beach man who was in a plane supposedly hijacked to Cuba Monday is mentioned in connection with smuggled war planes in the current issue of a national magazine.

Randall Lee (Tex) Etheridge, who was scheduled to stand trial in Criminal Court Tuesday on child molestation charges, allegedly was once involved in smuggling planes to Haiti.

Writing in the May issue of True Magazine, Andrew St. George makes reference to him in the "T-28 all purpose fighter-bomber-training plane," two of which he claims were smuggled to Haiti.

"THE MYSTERIOUS case of the contraband T-28's threw a sharp instant's light on the hidden workings of secret wars. Two of the smuggled warplanes purchased from private dealers were traced to Randall Lee Etheridge (his spelling), a Palm Beach pilot known as a busy friend of Haiti; beyond Etheridge, the trail led to Vito de Filippo, the Cosa Nostra vicerey in Port-Au-Prince," St. George wrote in an article entitled "The Mafia vs. The CIA."

Etheridge was prosecuted



Tex Etheridge
... flew for Haiti

in U.S. District Court in Miami, in 1965 on charges of planning to fly warplanes to Haiti in violation of laws against unlicensed shipment of war materials. He later sued customs officials for allegedly tapping his motel telephone.

ETHERIDGE RENTED the four-passenger Piper Apache from Florida Airmotive Inc., Lantana, reportedly to fly to Key West.

Instead, however, he went to Naples Monday, where he dropped a note on the runway indicating that he was a captive of hijackers.

The FBI said Tuesday night that the case was still under investigation.

BLOOMINGTON, IND.
COURIER

E & S - 7,200

APR 20 1970

Only in America

It sounds at first like a comic-opera cross-pollination of James Bond and Marshall McLuhan. For example:

— Under the eye of a Columbia Broadcasting System camera, a Haitian exile priest calmly describes his plot to bomb the palace of his homeland's dictator, Francois Duvalier, when the great invasion takes place.

— A cameraman assigned to the filming gets worried and promptly contacts the FBI and the Central Intelligence Agency.

— The CBS expert on gun-smuggling and Caribbean invasion plans turns out to be an informant for the CIA while he is accepting about \$6,400 in fees from the network.

— One of the prospective invaders loses an eye when his training rifle explodes — on camera — and he later extracts a \$15,000 damage settlement from CBS, which already has paid his medical bills.

THESE AND ASSORTED other bizarre details emerged Thursday from a House commerce subcommittee's investigation of the CBS role in an alleged plot to invade Haiti in 1966 and 1967.

Congressmen accused network executives, among other things, of manufacturing news events, meddling in foreign affairs, and possibly urging others to commit criminal acts. The resulting film was never aired.

"This is another instance of creating news and encouraging a criminal act," declared Rep. Paul G. Rogers (D-Fla.). "This was an inspired invasion to get some documentary film."

CBS News Vice President William L. Leonard and Perry Wolff, an executive news producer, insisted the episode was an aborted foray into investigative reporting that flopped. "We never staged anything," insisted Leonard.

IT BEGAN IN 1966 when a CBS producer-reporter, Jay McMullen, set out to film a gun-smuggling report and ran into a supposed plot by exile Cubans and Haitians to invade Haiti. He filmed shots of exiles plotting around a dinner table, of guns being transported to Miami, and of the "invaders" being trained to shoot ancient rifles somewhere in Florida.

The subcommittee, which has held secret hearings before, claimed many of those filmed have testified they received payments for their parts and were considered "employees" of CBS.

According to Rep. John E. Moss (D-Calif.), McMullen's assistant on the job, Anthony St. George, testified in closed session that there was an understanding the refugees filmed could be paid in cash.

The CBS executives replied some of the men were paid normal cash "releases" for being filmed, that CBS did pay consultant fees to an arms dealer named Mitchell Werbell, and financed a \$1,500 trip to the Dominican Republic for some refugees and a film crew.

BUT, ASKED IF CBS paid money to promote an invasion it could film, Leonard replied firmly, "No, sir."

Besides, Leonard replied, the project was canceled and the film never broadcast. He had written a memo in late 1966 declaring that it all amounted merely to the "non-adventures of a rag-tag crew that would even make Duvalier look good."

The network executives were criticized for playing along with what might have been an invasion of another country from American soil, contrary to U.S. foreign policy. Leonard said he had understood that certain people in the U.S. government were aware of the invasion corps anyway.

OUTSIDE THE HEARING room later, McMullen, the producer, told reporters that some scenes had indeed been faked by his assistant, St. George, whom he had promptly fired. He insisted also that the government must have known something of the affair because the Georgia arms dealer, Werbell, was discovered to be in touch with the CIA in Miami.

However, Moss insisted he had discovered that the CIA knew nothing of the operation.

"When news becomes such a valuable commodity that it has to be manufactured and involves relations with other countries, it breaches any bounds of reasonableness," Moss declared.

Rogers added: "I'm convinced that CBS helped to stage this, after listening to the evidence."

APR 18 1970
M - 203,790

STATINTL

House Tells of CBS Payment to Georgian

BY DUANE RINER

Constitution Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — A Georgia arms dealer once linked with an alleged 1966 plot to invade the Caribbean Republic of Haiti was paid \$6,478.28 by the Columbia Broadcasting System for service as a consultant to a network crew filming preparations for the invasion, records of a House investigating subcommittee showed Friday.

The Georgian, Mitchell WerBell of Powder Springs, testified recently at a secret session of the House Commerce subcommittee which is probing CBS's role in the alleged plot. Committee officials refused to release a transcript of his testimony.

Exhibits showing the network's payments to WerBell were filed Thursday during the committee's only open session.

CBS executives have firmly denied paying money to promote an invasion the network could film. "We never staged anything," CBS News Vice President William L. Leonard told the committee.

Network officials testified that the episode began in 1963 when a CBS producer-reporter, Jay McMullen, began filming a gun smuggling report and stumbled into an alleged plot by exiled Cubans and Haitians to invade Haiti.

Members of the committee have criticized CBS for playing along with what could have developed into an invasion of another country from U.S. soil.

McMullen told newsmen outside the hearing room that the government must have been advised of the affair because WerBell was discovered to have been in touch with the Central

Intelligence Agency in Miami.

The committee's chief counsel, Robert W. Lishman, said he had no reason to believe WerBell was connected with the CIA but he noted that the Georgian was once named as one of the conspirators in the invasion plot, "and for some reason, the charge was dropped."

Asked how CBS chose WerBell as a consultant, Lishman commented: "He apparently had experience in this field or else he sold them a bill of goods. You'll have to ask CBS about that."

A Justice department spokesman said that WerBell was indicted as a co-conspirator along with six others in 1967 on a charge of violating the neutrality act. The others were tried, convicted, sentenced and lost their appeals, but the charge against WerBell was dismissed by the government.



MITCHELL WERBELL

"All I can tell you is that government attorneys said in court that we did not have sufficient evidence to sustain the charge," the Justice department official added.

Rep. John E. Moss, D-Calif., insisted that he had learned that the CIA knew nothing of the operation. "When news becomes such a valuable commodity that it has to be manufactured and involves relations with other countries," said Moss, "it breaches any bounds of reasonableness."

Another committee member, Rep. Paul G. Rogers, D-Fla., said he is convinced after listening to the evidence "that CBS helped to stage this."

Bizarre Tales Link TV to Haiti Plot

By WILLIAM CHAPMAN
Miami Herald-Washington Post Wire

WASHINGTON — It sounds at first like a comic-opera cross-pollination of James Bond and Marshall McLuhan. For example:

○ UNDER the eye of a Columbia Broadcasting System camera, a Haitian exile priest calmly describes his plot to bomb the palace of his homeland's dictator Francois Duvalier, when the great invasion takes place.

○ A CAMERAMAN assigned to the filming gets worried and promptly contacts the FBI and the Central Intelligence Agency.

○ THE CBS expert on gun-smuggling and Caribbean invasion plans turns out to be an informant for the CIA while he is accepting about \$6,400 in fees from the network.

○ ONE OF the prospective invaders loses an eye when his training rifle explodes — on camera — and he later extracts a \$15,000 damage settlement from CBS, which already has paid his medical bills.

These and assorted other bizarre details emerged from a House Commerce subcommittee's investigation of the CBS role in an alleged plot to invade Haiti in 1966 and 1967.

Congressmen accused network executives, among other things, of manufacturing news events, meddling in foreign affairs, and possibly urging others to commit criminal acts. The resulting film was never aired.

"This is another instance of creating news and encouraging a criminal act," declared Rep. Paul G. Rogers (D., Fla.). "This was an inspired invasion to get some documentary film."

CBS News Vice President William L. Leonard and Perry Wolff, and executive news producer, insisted the episode was an aborted foray into investigative reporting that flopped. "We never staged anything," insisted Leonard.



ST. GEORGE ROGERS

It began in 1966 when a CBS producer-reporter, Jay McMullen, set out to film a gun-smuggling report and ran into a supposed plot by exile Cubans and Haitians to invade Haiti. He filmed shots of exiles plotting around a dinner table, of guns being transported to Miami, and of the "invaders" being trained to shoot ancient rifles somewhere in Florida.

The subcommittee, which has held secret hearings before, claimed many of those filmed have testified they received payments for their parts and were considered "employees" of CBS.

According to Rep. John E. Moss (D., Calif.), McMullen's assistant on the job, Andrew St. George, testified in closed session that there was an understanding the refugees filmed could be paid in cash.

The CBS executives replied some of the men were paid normal cash "releases" for being filmed, that CBS did pay consultant fees to an arms dealer named Mitchell Werbell, and financed a \$1,500 trip to the Dominican Republic for some refugees and a film crew.

But, asked if CBS paid money to promote an invasion it could film, Leonard replied firmly, "No, sir."

Besides, Leonard replied, the project was canceled and the film never broadcast. He had written a memo in late 1966 declaring that it all amounted merely to the "non-adventures of a rag-tag crew that would even make Duvalier look good."

The network executives were criticized for playing along with what might have been an invasion of another

country from American soil, contrary to U.S. foreign policy. Leonard said he had understood that certain people in the U.S. government were aware of the invasion corps anyway.

Outside the hearing room later, McMullen, the producer, told reporters that some scenes had indeed been faked by his assistant, St. George, whom he had promptly fired. He insisted also that the government must have known something of the affair

because the Georgia arms dealer, Werbell, was discovered to be in touch with the CIA in Miami.

However, Moss insisted he had discovered that the CIA knew nothing of the operation.

"When news becomes such a valuable commodity that it has to be manufactured and involves relations with other countries, it breaches any bounds of reasonableness," Moss declared.

Rogers added: "I'm convinced that CBS helped to stage this, after listening to the evidence."

STATINTL

W - 246,841
 S - 514,496
 APR 17 1970

Accuse CBS of Financing Abortive Invasion of Haiti

By James Risser
 (Of The Register's Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The CBS television network was accused at a congressional committee hearing Thursday of having helped finance an attempted invasion of Haiti in 1967 so it could get exclusive films of the operation.

Two CBS executives, appearing under subpoena, denied the charges but admitted that the network spent more than \$150,000 on its "Project Nassau." They were unable to explain some payments made to participants in the invasion plot.



The CBS officials — Vice-President William Leonard and executive producer Perry Wolff — also acknowledged that some of the training maneuvers and gun-running operations of the invasion force later turned out to have been phony events, staged for the CBS cameras.

But they claimed that CBS had been misled by the invaders and that the network had not knowingly tried to manufacture news. They also charged that the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) knew of the invasion plan, and that the government in effect encouraged CBS to go ahead with its filming.

The abortive invasion was halted with the arrest on Jan. 2, 1967, of its leaders as the invaders set sail from the south Florida coast. Some of the participants have been convicted of violating the Neutrality Act and the Munitions Act.

The purpose of the invasion, which was to have been principally carried out by Cuban exiles and American residents from other Caribbean countries, was to overthrow the dictatorship of Dr. Francois Duvalier, the president of Haiti.

Thursday's public hearing was held by a House commerce investigation subcommittee, which earlier has taken testimony behind closed doors into allegations that CBS helped pay for the planned invasion.

"Rag-Tag Crew"

The films made by CBS have never been broadcast, but were shown to the subcommittee Thursday. Leonard said the entire project, which began as a planned documentary on Caribbean gun-running, was dropped in late 1966 after it became clear that the invaders were "a rag-tag crew" who didn't know what they were doing.

Thursday's hearing did not bring to public light the whole story, because testimony taken earlier in secret was only alluded to.

But several subcommittee members — including Democratic representatives Torbert Macdonald of Massachusetts, John E. Moss of California and Paul G. Rogers of Florida — concluded, as Rogers put it, that "CBS helped to stage this... This was an inspired invasion to get news for a documentary film."

Subcommittee attorney Daniel Manelli told the two CBS executives that the subcommittee has evidence that:

—CBS paid \$15,000 to one of the invasion plotters whose gun blew up in his face and cost him the sight of his eye while he was being filmed in target practice.

—CBS paid \$950 to one of the invasion leaders later arrested and convicted.

—The network paid \$6,478

to a Powder Springs, Ga., arms dealer named Mitchell L. WarBell, who the CBS executives said was hired as a consultant by Jay McMullen, their newsman in charge of the project.

—That a number of other payments were made by McMullen, sometimes acting through Andrew St. George, a free-lance writer hired by CBS to help on the project, to various participants in the planned invasion.

(McMullen, who has testified in closed session and was present Thursday, told reporters afterward that he had to fire St. George after learning that at least one of the gun-running episodes filmed for CBS was staged and never really happened. St. George recently wrote an article on the attempted invasion for *Truth* magazine, claiming that the CIA and other government officials were not objecting to the invasion).

Subcommittee lawyer Manelli said U.S. involvement in the plot seems illogical in view of the fact that federal agents made the arrests that stopped the invasion.

The films shown to the subcommittee pictured a number of training maneuvers, the stockpiling of machine guns, rifles and other arms for transportation by ship to the Dominican Republic for later use in the invasion, and interviews with the invasion participants.

Leonard first claimed that any payments made by CBS to participants were only to secure legal "releases" and permission to film them. Manelli said many of the payments were larger than the nominal amounts usually paid for releases, however.

"Out of Kindness"

The CBS officials, and the lawyers accompanying them, acknowledged that the \$15,000 payment had been made to the injured man. Asked why they would make such a payment if the man were not a CBS employee, they said they made the payment "out of kindness."

Moss, who authored the federal Freedom of Information Act, said he has no desire to crack down on vigorous news coverage but said that the committee received testimony in closed session that CBS "time and time again" made payments to the plotters.

Moss said information of the plot and the CBS activities came to the government when James Wilson, a CBS cameraman assigned to the project, went to the FBI and the CIA and told the federal agents about it.

"Knew of Plot"

Newsman McMullen claimed after the hearing that Wilson was a government informant all along and that the government knew of the plot from the beginning.

Subcommittee Chairman Harley Staggers (Dem., W. Va.) said Thursday's hearing was "not accusatory in nature; we are interested in learning the facts." The subcommittee is responsible for overseeing federal communications law.

17 APR 1970

CBS Role in 1966 Haiti Invasion 'Plot' Unfolded on Hill

By William Chapman
Washington Post Staff Writer

It sounds at first like a comic-opera cross-pollination of James Bond and Marshall McLuhan. For example:

- Under the eye of a Columbia Broadcasting System camera, a Haitian exile priest calmly describes his plot to bomb the palace of his homeland's dictator, Francois Duvalier, when the great invasion takes place.
- A cameraman assigned to the filming gets worried and promptly contacts the FBI and the Central Intelligence Agency.
- The CBS expert on gun-smuggling and Caribbean invasion plans turns out to be an informant for the CIA while he is accepting about \$6,400 in fees from the network.
- One of the prospective invaders loses an eye when his training rifle explodes—

on camera—and he later extracts a \$15,000 damage settlement from CBS, which already has paid his medical bills.

These and assorted other bizarre details emerged yesterday from a House Commerce subcommittee's investigation of the CBS role in an alleged plot to invade Haiti in 1966 and 1967.

Congressmen accused network executives, among other things, of manufacturing news events, meddling in foreign affairs, and possibly urging others to commit criminal acts.

"This is another instance of creating news and encouraging a criminal act," declared Rep. Paul G. Rogers (D-Fla.). "This was an inspired invasion to get some documentary film."

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STATINTL

17 APR 1970

Witnesses Hint Role of CBS In 1966 Haiti Plot Extensive

By GUS CONSTANTINE
Star Staff Writer

The Columbia Broadcasting System's involvement in a 1966 plot to invade Haiti appears to have been more extensive than previously made public, according to congressional testimony by network officials.

Under questioning from House Commerce subcommittee probers yesterday, William Leonard, vice president of CBS News, said the network spent "about \$160,000 to \$170,000" to film the Haitian invasion project, more than twice the amount previously disclosed in a confidential committee staff report.

A series of internal CBS memoranda presented by the subcommittee referred to "unimpeded" expenditures by CBS, based on promises by Haitian and Cuban exiles that an "invasion would take place."

Project "Unfinished"

When the invasion plans were aborted in November 1966, a memorandum followed barring broadcast of the film because of the "unfinished nature of the project."

CBS has claimed that it sim-

ply paid money for an "investigative report on gun-running activities and training exercises" of a group which was attempting to launch an invasion.

Two months after CBS disassociated itself with the project in November 1966, a group of Cuban and Haitian exiles was arrested in the Florida Keys while preparing to embark for Haiti.

Six of them later were convicted of violating the Neutrality Act and the Firearms Control Act, and their convictions were upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court this month.

Secrecy Lid Lifted

The new information on the CBS involvement came yesterday when the subcommittee, in a surprise turnabout, partly lifted the veil of secrecy it had wrapped around its two-year investigation.

It subpoenaed Leonard and CBS News executive producer Perry Wolff to testify on allegations that the CBS involvement in the so-called "Project Nassau" was "improper, illegal and/or in violation of the public interest."

Commerce Committee Chairman Harley O. Staggers, D-W.Va., said that the subpoenas were issued at the witnesses' request.

He also said that the hearings have been conducted in secret until now because of the case which had been pending in the Supreme Court.

Film Is Shown

The two-hour hearing opened with the showing of the film produced by CBS over a period ranging from June to November 1966.

It showed what were described as illegal arms being moved into a Miami home in June, a ship hired to transport the weapons to the Dominican Republic—staging area of the planned invasion, training exercises in which one of the participants lost an eye as a result of a misfiring, and interviews with the plot leaders.

Wolff called the film an investigative reporter's "notebook." Subcommittee members charged that it was an account of a planned invasion "inspired to get documentary films."

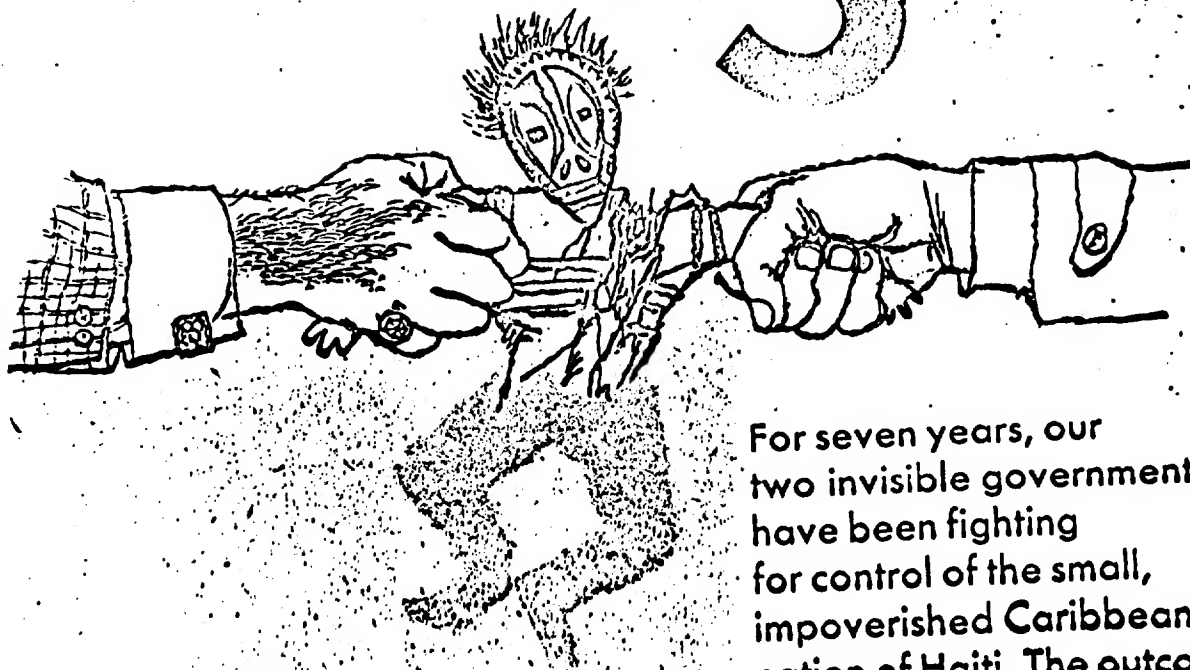
TRUE
APRIL

STATINTL

STATINTL

THE MAFIA VS THE CIA

STATINTL



For seven years, our two invisible governments have been fighting for control of the small, impoverished Caribbean nation of Haiti. The outcome is still in doubt.

BY ANDREW ST. GEORGE

ILLUSTRATED BY DAVID STONE MARTIN

MEMPHIS, LA.
WORLD

M - 32,207
S - 46,223

MAR 22 1970

Two Invisible Governments

What has been described as the United States' worst war — far exceeding the Vietnam conflict in ferocity and importance — is pictured as being fought now between two invisible governments in this country. These two invisible governments are named as the United States Central Intelligence Agency and the Cosa Nostra, or Mafia, crime syndicate which has been spreading its tentacles over this nation and in other parts of the Americas ever since its members were driven out of Italy by the late Dictator Benito Mussolini.

An article in a national magazine says the CIA and the Mafia, for seven years, have been fighting for control of the small, impoverished Caribbean nation of Haiti and that the outcome is still in doubt.

Somewhat earlier in the administration of President Nixon, there was talk of enacting special legislation and appropriating funds for the purpose of wiping out crimes syndicates, chief of which is the Mafia. As if insidiously motivated, this talk gradually subsided into silence. It appeared as if Congress, for some reason, had decided not to do anything about the crime syndicates, including the Mafia, although it is known to be so strong that it threatens to take over our legal, visible government.

Into Top Levels

The Mafia, high authorities say, reaches into the top levels of state and national governments.

There are some who consider the late President John F. Kennedy the first person in high authority to move against the Mafia on a broad basis. On this phase the magazine said, in part:

"There is bound to appear a best-seller by a White House insider . . . who will publish the authoritative firsthand account of President John F. Kennedy's 1963 decision to attempt to free Haiti from the cancerous dictatorship of Dr. Francois Duvalier, and explain why the President and the National Security Council, ignoring the then-recent Bay of Pigs disaster, decided to entrust the liberation of Haiti to our 'intelligence community.' How the intelligence community — a joint group of the CIA, the Navy and the Pentagon's huge Defense Intelligence Agency — fell down on the job will probably be reviewed by an award-winning Washington newsmen in a hard-hitting book that will call for an investigation — and likely get one started.

"A definitive book on the whole Haiti mess would best come from a cautious, emotionless typewriter of a seasoned crime writer. An old hand at gangland wars, nameless corpses, syndicate power struggles and numbered bank transactions would go to Haiti and find the familiar scene. He would poke his toe at the bomb crater in the presidential driveway and never mistake it for a pothole.

Discovery In 1970

"Americans . . . spent an unhappy time in the 1960s adjusting to the discovery that the United States has two invisible governments. There is, for one, the CIA all over Washington and there is the national syndicate of organized crime, all over everything else. But it remained for the generation of the 1970s to discover, perhaps inevitable, that once those two shadow

powers collided somewhere, the confrontation escalated into an invisible war.

"It may be the first full-scale secret war the Americans have ever fought: its origins disguised, its battles unreported, its casualties anonymous, even its most obvious scars blithely ignored."

Is it possible that there is no way a democracy can defeat a crime syndicate that operates as a secret government? Mussolini's tactic in Italy was simply to tell them to get out of that nation or be killed. There was no worry about trials. Yet, in this country, the new chief of a crime syndicate is boldly announced, as it was in the days of the late Scarface Al Capone in Chicago, and nothing is done about it.

Summary Justice

Perhaps the nearest thing the United States ever had to "summary justice," where trials were seldom involved, was lodged in the old-time Texas Rangers. They were authorized to shoot outlaws first and ask questions afterward.

There are those who think that if the old-time Texas still had their original authority, they would go about the business of wiping out the Cosa Nostra by shooting down anyone who was bold enough to let it be known he was an official of the Mafia. After all, can anyone direct the activities of a multi-billion-dollar crime syndicate without being a criminal?

It was stated that the real purpose of the war over Haiti is for control over the entire Caribbean and its vast potential wealth.

Our prime concern is ending the invisible government of the Mafia in the United States itself. If we can wipe out that organization in the United States, we shall be in a better position to prevent its seizure of power in the whole American sphere.

Can and will Congress give us the legislation necessary to achieve this purpose?

CINCINNATI, Ohio
ENQUIRER

M - 189,425
S - 302,445
MAR 8 1970

U.S. Agencies Charged With Invasions Of Haiti

Chicago Daily News Service

WASHINGTON—U. S. Intelligence agencies, with Navy support, financed and supervised at least four unsuccessful invasions of Haiti since 1964, a longtime writer on Latin American affairs charged Saturday.

The abortive assaults, in which "hundreds of men have been killed and millions of dollars spent" were beaten back by Haitian dictator Dr. Francis Duvalier, he said. Duvalier, he added, secured weapons, boats and planes from the American Mafia, which had gotten them from Italy.

In repayment, said writer Andrew St. George, Duvalier awarded Haitian gambling concessions to the underworld czars.

Haitian diplomatic sources here said that 10 attempted invasions of the black Caribbean island nation had been launched since 1959. When protests were lodged with the UN Security Council in 1968, said one official, "we did not say they came from the Central Intelligence Agency—we didn't have any proof."

He added that following an assault in 1968—involving according to St. George 80 U. S.-trained Haitians, but only 10 to 15 according to U. S. government officials—he made a request of the State Department for a U. S. crackdown on Haitian rebels trained on American soil.

"I didn't bring any accusations against the United States government or its agents," the official said. "I asked that they (invaders trained on U. S. soil) be stopped, and we are finding now they have been stopped," he said.

Currently, U. S.-Haitian relations are very good," he said, adding that in the Nixon administration there is more understanding of Latin America than existed dur-

ing the Johnson and Kennedy eras. St. George's allegations, appearing in True Magazine's March issue, are an attempt to disrupt these relations, he said.

A spokesman for the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), which along with the Pentagon's Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), was named as masterminding the invasion attempts, declined comment.

A State Department official, asked about possible CIA-DIA-Navy participation in the operations, would only say that the United States is doing its best to enforce the neutrality laws and prevent the illegal export of arms.

A government source explained that the State Department follows a "no comment" policy in matters that may "prejudice other agencies," or when it has no knowledge of them.

But foreign diplomatic sources here conceded that it is possible that intelligence operations, such as those by the CIA, could be carried on without the knowledge of even top-level government officials, U. S. or Haitian.

St. George said the air or sea assaults, or both, took place in 1964, 1965, 1968 and 1969, with forces ranging from small commando groups of a few dozen to hundreds of troops.

All were foiled by Duvalier, who appeared to have an uncanny knowledge beforehand of the operations.

E - 461,357

MAR 7 1970

CIA, Mafia roles

By Robert Gruenberg
Of Our Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — United States intelligence agencies, with U.S. Navy support, "financed and supervised" at least four unsuccessful invasions of Haiti since 1964, a long-time writer on Latin American affairs charged Saturday.

The abortive assaults, in which "hundreds of men have been killed and millions of dollars spent," were beaten back by Haitian dictator Dr. Francis Duvalier.

Duvalier, he added, obtained weapons, boats and planes from the American Mafia, which got them from Italy.

In repayment, said writer Andrew St. George, Duvalier awarded Haitian gambling concessions to the underworld czars.

HAITIAN diplomatic sources here told The Daily News that 10 attempted invasions against the black Caribbean island "republic" had been launched since 1959.

When protests were lodged with the United Nations Security Council in 1968, one Haitian official said, "We did not say they came from the Central Intelligence Agency — We didn't have any proof."

He added that after an assault in 1965 — involving, according to St. George, 80 U.S. trained Haitians, but only 12 to 15, according to U.S. government officials — he asked the State Department for a U.S. crackdown on Haitian rebels

in Haiti

trained on American soil.

"I didn't bring any accusations against the U.S. government or its agencies,"

"I asked that they (rebels) trained on U.S. soil be stopped, and we are finding now they have been stopped," he said.

U.S. Haitian relations are now "very good," the official said, adding that "in the Nixon administration there is more understanding of Latin America" than existed during the Johnson and Kennedy eras. St. George's allegations, appearing in a True magazine's April issue, are an attempt to disrupt these relations, he said.

A SPOKESMAN for the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), which, along with the Pentagon's Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), was named as mastermind of the invasions, declined comment.

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laws and prevent the illegal export of arms."

A government source explained that the State Department follows a "no comment" policy in matters that may "prejudice other agencies," or when, in actuality, it has no knowledge.

But foreign diplomatic sources here conceded that it is possible that intelligence operations, such as those by the CIA, could be carried on without the knowledge of even top-level government officials, U.S. or Haitian.

ST. GEORGE, who has covered the Caribbean extensively; said the air or sea assaults, or both, took place in 1964, 1965, 1968 and 1969, with forces ranging from small commando groups of a few dozen to "hundreds" of troops.

All were foiled by Duvalier, who appeared to have an uncanny knowledge beforehand of the operations. The biggest assault, in May, 1968, involved landing of three planes in the Cap Haitien area, disgorging 80 men, while a fourth plane bombed Duvalier's palace in Port-au-Prince. "U.S. pilots, instructors, boatmen and demolition experts handled all key operational assignments," his article said.

A bombing "raid" was also made against Duvalier's palace in June, 1969, when eight drums of gasoline were dropped. Rene Leon, the Haitian pilot, was sentenced last

heard

week to three years in prison by a U.S. federal judge in Miami, while five others who were implicated received sentences from nine months to to years.

DUVALIER, according to the article, was forced to depend on the Mafia for arms to defend himself, because of a U.S. policy of not selling them to Haiti.

Haitian sources here acknowledged that Duvalier had bought arms "in Europe." Also, they said, they had "heard reports" that one of the men sentenced last week in the 1969 bombing raid, Howard Davis, 38, had "worked" for the CIA, but gave no additional details. They denied that the Mafia had been awarded Haitian gambling concessions.

STATINTL

NEW YORK, N.Y.
POST

E - 708,180

MAR 7 1970



Say U.S. Invaded Haiti 4 Times

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BEST COPY

Available

MAR 6 1970
H - 480,233

In Praise of Notoriety

By Michael O'Leary

A 51-year-old muckraker who places himself in the venerable tradition of Lincoln Steffens came to town yesterday singing the praises of his new brainchild.

The howling infant's name is Scanlan's Monthly (in memory of John Scanlan, an otherwise forgotten Irish pig farmer), its 136 pages weighing in just under a pound, with no advertisements to guarantee its future.

"Balance by most magazines on advertisers has either killed them off or turned them into brainless non-entities," said Warren Hinckle III, former reporter for The Chronicle and one-time golden spirit of Ramparts magazine.

Stockholders

Instead of ads, said Hinckle and his co-editor, Sidney Zion, the New York-based Monthly—now on the newsstands—will rely on its \$1 tab and the goodwill of 750 stockholders.

Some \$750,000—raised

through a stock issue—enabled the first edition to meet its printing bill and see another on the way, Hinckle noted, puffing on a \$1 Don Marcos cigar at Enrico's coffeehouse.

"We've told our stockholders—in a front cover editorial—that just because we've taken their money that doesn't mean we give a damn what they think," he declared.

And, good as his word, Hinckle pointed out that the first issue steps on any number of Establishment toes:

• An article by the late Ben Hecht on Mickey Cohen that some stockholders felt "glorified gangsters."

• A short history of Biafra that "puts the blame on the State Department and the British Foreign Office as co-conspirators responsible for the death of a nation."

• A muckraking article digging into the alleged role of the Columbia Broadcasting System "in helping the CIA organize what turned out to be an abortive invasion of

Haiti as a jumping-off point to a new Cuban invasion."

• And, perhaps, muckiest of all, a rat's eye view of the top New York restaurants depicting the "abysmally unsanitary conditions" of the kitchens that help feed Manhattan's financial and show business elite.

"If nothing else," said Zion, 36, a former reporter,

for The New York Times, "that garbage can story—the start of a series—should bring us the notoriety we feel we richly deserve."

Sales

Already, according to Hinckle, the edition of 120,000 copies—printed in San Jose—has sold out in New York three days after publication, with sales going "almost as well" elsewhere.

Hinckle, called by some the Diamond Jim of the New Left, claims that he's practically "as naked as a jaybird, financially" after going through some \$1.5 million in backing for his various enterprises.

"Semi-penury is the necessary trapping of a latter-day muckraker," he noted philosophically. "It's a headache, as someone pointed out, but it's not a bore."

Record

And upcoming in Scanlan's, for the further delectation of Hinckle and his would-be scandalous crew, is the first recorded Vietnam atrocity ("an open admission by an Army group command-

er who's still back there").

"It's an actual 23-speed record that we've found into our April issue," said Hinckle. "We felt everyone has read so much about Vietnam atrocities that they're jaded and it's time they listened to one by a participant."

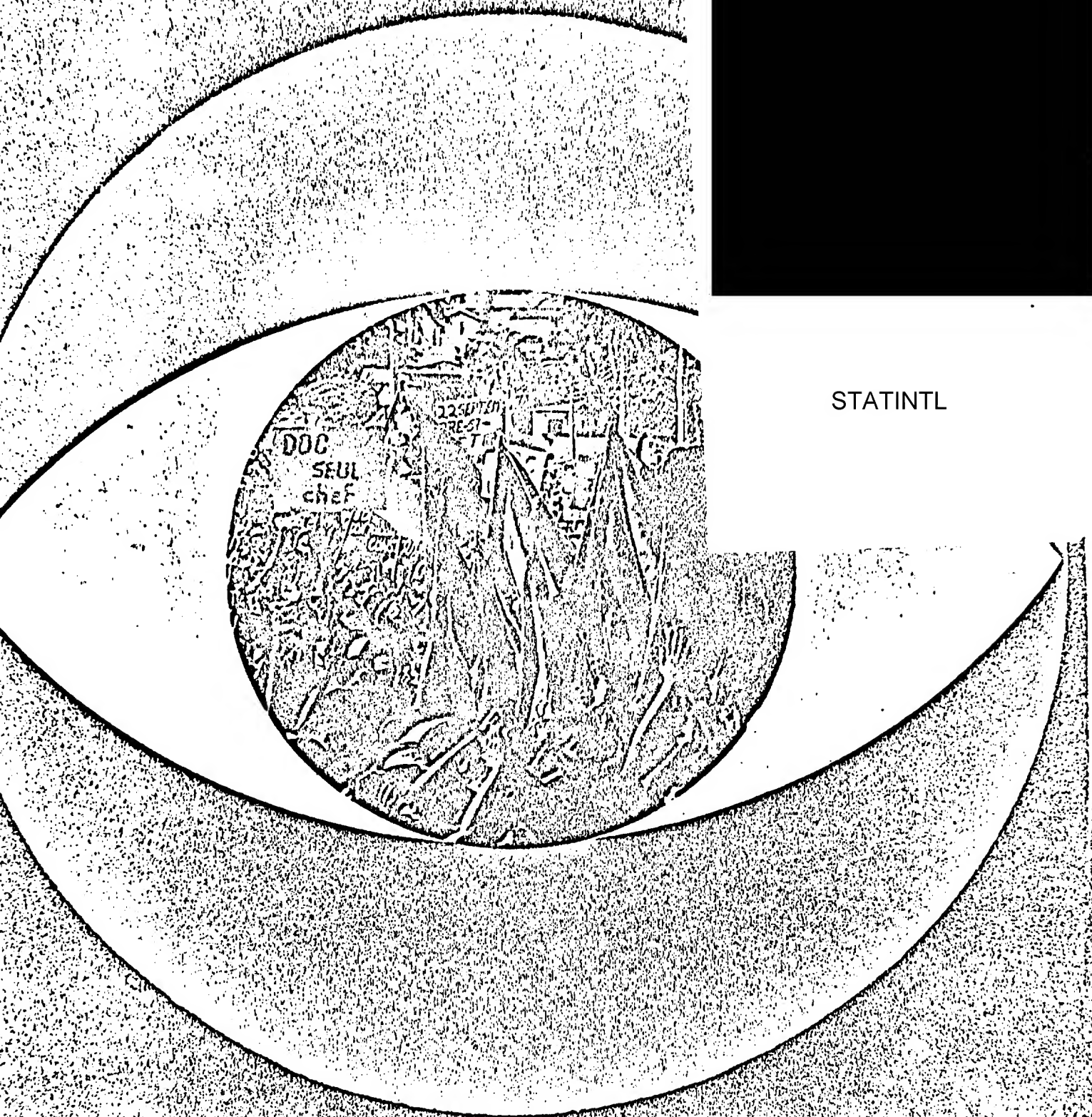
Also on tap for the next issue, the daredevil muckraker added, is an economic history of alleged huge profits made by airlines ferrying dead GIs home from Vietnam.

Tribute

If nothing else justifies putting out another magazine, said Hinckle, Scanlan's is "a living tribute to the memory of the late San Francisco advertising genius, Howard Gossage."

Gossage, who is listed on the magazine's masthead as chairman of the board, set the policy for Scanlan's Hinckle said.

"As Howard put it, in a quote he made up himself but attributed to A. J. Liebling, freedom of the press is only guaranteed to those who own one."



STATINTL

THE CIA, FBI & CBS BOMB

Ex-CBS Writer Denies Role in Haiti Extortion

By GUS CONSTANTINE
Star Staff Writer

Andrew St. George, a writer on Latin American affairs who was hired by CBS in 1966 as associate producer for the "Haitian invasion" story, yesterday denied involvement in an alleged attempt to extort funds from the Haitian consul, Eugene Maximilian.

"I was not only not involved in this attempt, but at the time when it occurred, I had already been confined to Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami with burn injuries," St. George said.

"I did not even have first-hand knowledge of the incident in my capacity as associate producer of the documentary project," he added.

Mentioned in Report

St. George's name appeared in connection with this incident in The Star's report Thursday on CBS and the plot to invade Haiti.

His name was mentioned in a staff report of the House Special Investigations Subcommittee last June 20.

This report, prepared by subcommittee investigators James P. Kelly and S. Arnold Smith, mentions several occasions on which people planning or having knowledge of the Haitian invasion attempt met with the consul in an attempt to obtain money.

On the first visit, according to the report, the consul was told that for a cash advance of \$4,000, and the rest COD, weapons stored in the Dominican Republic could be sent to Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

"At their next discussion, which also included St. George and Masferrer, Maximilian said that the terms of sale were unacceptable. Then, the talk switched to Masferrer's plans to invade Haiti. Maximilian was told that if he could obtain \$200,000 from Duvalier, the conspirators would discontinue assault preparations," the subcommittee staff reports states. Masferrer was identified as a plot organizer.

"Surreptitiously Recorded"

"The conversation with the Haitian consul were surreptitiously recorded and a hidden camera also shot some footage with Maximilian," St. George said yesterday.

"However, by this time, I had ceased to function as a member of the CBS team," St. George told The Star.

Asked how he knew of those activities, St. George said, "I was told by Schacter." He was referring to Stanley Schacter, the U.S. Customs official who was kept informed of the Haitian plot development, according to the subcommittee staff report.

St. George said that when he appeared before an executive session of the subcommittee, which took place after the staff report was written, "the matter did not even come up."

St. George was injured when a yacht he was on near Coral Gables, Fla., caught fire.

PROBERS READING THE SCRIPT

The Story of CBS and the Plot to

Invade Haiti

By GUS CONSTANTINE
Star Staff Writer

The Columbia Broadcasting System has been accused in a confidential House subcommittee staff report of contributing close to \$80,000 to a 1966 plot to invade Haiti.

According to the report, CBS in return obtained exclusive rights to film illegal shipments of arms and training sites of the plotters preparatory to filming the invasion itself.

It also charges that the network has been trying to hide its involvement and that it rebuked a CBS cameraman for reporting the matter to federal authorities.

Richard Salant, president of CBS News, confirmed in New York yesterday that "CBS News filmed gun-running activities and training exercises as part of an investigative report on the activities of Cuban-Haitian exile groups."

But he denied that the network helped finance the invasion plans or that it had "any complicity in the plot."

Asked whether the network had knowledge whether law was being violated, Salant said:

"If you're involved in filming guns and training exercises, obviously you have knowledge of a violation of law. But our general position is that where the violation is generally known, or there is reason to believe that law enforcement agencies know about it, then we proceed without notifying them."

Salant said CBS News' expenditure for the "Haitian project" was between \$150,000 and \$170,000. "about \$120,000 of this went for external costs—travel, board, lodging and payments to non-staff personnel," he said.

Although CBS has been linked to the invasion attempt in earlier news accounts, details of the network's involvement have never been disclosed. The invasion itself never came off.

"This committee has an excellent picture of what took place," a member of the



RICHARD S. SALANT

House Commerce Committee said in an interview.

The report, which was prepared for the subcommittee last June 20, caused some agonizing in the Commerce Committee over whether to call a public hearing.

Information in the report led to subpoenaing of CBS films, financial records and logs in connection with the invasion attempt. Executive sessions were held at which CBS personnel testified.

In their report, staff members of the Special Investigations subcommittee accused CBS of irresponsibility and said the network may have violated six federal statutes, including the Neutrality Act, the Munitions Control Law, the Communications Act of 1934 and several firearms laws.

The probers recommended that the network be called to public account in open hearings before the Commerce Committee, which has authority to investigate broadcast

licensing under the Communications Act.

Salant said he would welcome public hearings "at this stage." However, he said, "I'd have greater hope for such hearings getting at the truth if they could be held in a forum that offers the opportunity for cross-examination."

The invasion finally was broken up by customs agents on Jan. 2, 1967, in a raid at Coco Plum Beach, Fla. CBS had ended its involvement the previous November.

Seven men were indicted by

the plot. Six of them were tried and convicted in November 1967, while the charges against the seventh were dropped by the Justice Department. There is an appeal pending in New Orleans.

According to the Commerce Subcommittee staff report, the plot was hatched early in 1966 by Cuban and Haitian exiles as a two-step invasion which would seize Haiti from a base in the Dominican Republic, then use it as a jumping-off point to strike at Cuba.

The report contends CBS learned about it in March 1966, agreed in April to film invasion preparations, including weapons shipments and caches, and did so in June and at other times. It further contends that the network put up funds toward the rental of a yacht to serve as the invasion "flagship."

CBS pulled out of the operation in November, the report said, when a customs agent who had been kept informed of the plans told the network the planned invasion of Haiti would not be permitted.

Salant said CBS officials wanted to pull out as early as September but that customs agents called and asked them to continue.

"As things developed by late summer, I got the feeling of something smelly. I felt we were being had," Salant said.

Leading Figures

The leading "actors" in the "invasion" drama, according to the staff report, were:

- Rolando Masferrer Rojas, a 52-year-old Cuban right-winger known as "The Tiger." He controlled a private army in Cuba when Fulgencio Batista was dictator.

- The Rev. Jean Baptiste Georges, a Catholic priest and a former education minister under Haitian President Francois Duvalier.

- Julie Aton Constanze-Pelau, a Cuban conspirator who allegedly assisted CBS in its filming. He was recently shot in Miami.

- Julio Cesar Hormilla, a Cuban who lost an eye while participating in the filming of invasion training.

- Mitchell Wer Bell III, a munitions dealer linked to clandestine operations and up to date in Latin America. He

was hired by CBS as a consultant for the invasion story.

- Jay McMullen, CBS producer for the invasion story.

- Andrew St. George, a freelance writer who tipped off CBS on the invasion plans and was hired by the network as associate producer and writer of the story.

- James Wilson, a CBS cameraman who informed federal authorities of the invasion plans.

- Eugene Maximilian, Haitian counsel to the United States and the target of an extortion attempt.

- Stanley Schacter, assistant customs agent in charge of enforcement at Miami, who kept track of the unfolding invasion scheme.

Plans Outlined

The subcommittee report says CBS' association with the conspirators began in March 1966.

The conspiracy took shape initially as just one more Latin intrigue in Florida to topple the regime of Cuba's Fidel Castro.

In this instance, the plan called for Masferrer to be installed as chief of Cuba while Father Georges took over Haiti, provided a two-stage invasion was successful.

CBS enters the picture through McMullen, a producer eager to film arms-smuggling activities. The special subcommittee's chief investigator, James P. Kelly, himself a former CBS employe, is said to have worked on a project with McMullen in 1965 to film illegal expert of surplus fighter aircraft. That project was dropped.

Familiar with the interests of the invasion planners and McMullen, Andrew St. George, free lance writer, is introduced in the report as the contact who approached McMullen in March 1966. St. George is said to have told McMullen of the preparation for a Haitian invasion, and asked if CBS was still interested in illegal munitions movements.

Wer Bell, identified in the staff report as a man with a background in arms sales to

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CBS 'Hunger' film probed by committee in House

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

WASHINGTON — U.S. Rep. Henry Gonzalez reported Tuesday that the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee has begun its investigation of charges that the Columbia Broadcasting System staged or misrepresented portions of its prize-winning "Hunger In America" show dealing with conditions in San Antonio.

IN ADDITION, the San Antonio congressman related, the committee is also looking into a CBS special project involving gun running. He noted there have been charges that the project may have been linked to an abortive invasion of Haiti.

Gonzalez said that Robert Lishman, chief counsel for the investigative sub-committee of the Commerce Committee, had informed him that the present probe is to determine whether there is justification for formal hearings.

Regarding the gun-running matter, Gonzalez related:

"Apparently the network crew spent time filming gun-running activities of exiles from Cuba and Haiti. The network invested about \$150,000 and then aban-

doned the project. A charge was made that part of the CBS funds went to finance the abortive invasion attempt, but CBS denied the charge."

Gonzalez said there was a news story over the week-end from London where a man named Andrew St. George reported he worked as a consultant for CBS on the gun-running project. He continued:

"HE SAYS CBS did not try to finance or promote the invasion. Apparently the allegation that they staged scenes is under investigation."

Gonzalez mused: "They probably ran into a lot of CIA gun runners."

He explained that some years ago when he was looking into the loose control of armaments in the United States, he got a lead from agents in the Alcohol Tax division about a big gun-running move. It turned out to be a "CIA shipment," the congressman concluded.

In regard to the Commerce Committee's probe of his complaints about the hunger show's report on San Antonio, Gonzalez asserted:

"THEY OUGHT TO TAKE a hard look at the watchdog the government is supposed to have — the Federal Communications Commission."

Gonzalez termed the FCC's answer to his questions on the San Antonio film as "mealy mouthed" despite the

fact testimony showed portions of the documentary had been "staged" and the admission by the FCC that the "dying baby" with which the film opened had been misrepresented as dying of hunger.

"They are either unwilling or scared stiff to oversee the awesome power of the network systems," Gonzalez said.

ON ANOTHER FRONT the congressman said he was sending copies of his recent House speech on the "high handed method of intimidation" being

used by the Justice Department against news media to Atty. Gen. John Mitchell and President Nixon.

Gonzalez said he was asking that the attorney general and President "enlighten me on the real policy of the Justice Department."

In his speech Gonzalez had lashed at the blanket subpoenas issued by the Justice Department which called for newsmen to turn over masses of unedited notes, films and tapes involving coverage of radical and militant groups.

CBS Denies Aiding Attempt to Invade Haiti

Exclusive to The Times from Reuters

WASHINGTON — A spokesman for the Columbia Broadcasting System said Monday, "Any suggestion that CBS News 'financed' an attempt to invade Haiti in 1966 or deliberately encouraged such an invasion is false.

"Such allegations apparently relate to a CBS News investigative reporting project in 1966."

The spokesman said the project concerned the activities of Caribbean exiles living in Florida.

Meanwhile, it was confirmed that a congressional subcommittee investigating complaints of slanted news has been probing allegations that CBS helped finance Haitian rebels in exchange for film rights, a committee official said Monday.

Robert Lishman, counsel to the House interstate and foreign commerce special subcommittee on investigations, said the allegation against CBS was only one item in the inquiry.

He said the committee had received complaints to the effect that CBS had paid Haitians opposed to the government of President Francois Duvalier in exchange for exclusive film rights.

He declined to go into details of the charges reported by the London clubbed helping finance a commando invasion of Haiti.

Extract from "Eye" (column), page 8
Womens Wear Daily, New York
10 February 1970

"CIA VS. MAFIA. A national magazine reportedly is about to publish a shocker claiming that for several years the CIA tried its best (including a bombing) to slay Haiti dictator "Poppa Doc" Duvalier. When Papa Doc got wise, it's said, he hired Mafia types to counter the CIA efforts—and that put a stop to it."

Novelist Charges Haiti Massacre

STATINTL

LONDON, Jan. 12 (AP)—British novelist Graham Greene reported today that Haitian President Francois "Papa Doc" Duvalier's terrorist squads killed men, women and children last year in a massacre similar to the alleged My Lai 4 massacre by American soldiers in Vietnam.

Greene, whose novel "The Comedians" dealt with life in Haiti, said in a letter to The Times of London that "to make Haiti seem respectable again for American tourism, Papa Doc has turned to killing so-called Communists."

The novelist claimed Duvalier's secret police, the Ton Ton Macoute, killed 85 persons in the Port-au-Prince area, "a success he believed to owe to the assistance of the CIA." He did not substantiate the charge that the American agency was involved.